

# Fair Housing Coalition

## Contact Person:

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The City of Anderson Fair Housing Coalition is a group of local professional people committed to providing a consistent educational approach to fair housing for all citizens regardless of race, color, disability, religion, sex, familial status, or national origin. The Coalition affirmatively furthers fair housing through a number of community projects which include but are not limited to:

- . Providing forums, workshops, and seminars to educate the community about local, state, and federal fair housing laws
- . Providing the community with information regarding rental laws, lending information, the complaint process, and access to home ownership opportunities. An emphasis is placed on reaching Anderson's low and moderate income, elderly, and Hispanic populations.
- . Providing a repository for fair housing information and referral
- . Conducting door-to-door surveys of targeted areas to ascertain whether residents are aware of fair housing laws, how to file an alleged discrimination complaint, and how to access information regarding other aspects of fair housing rights and regulations
- . Providing targeted training and updated information to local real estate, banking, insurance, and apartment management professionals

The Coalition consists of representatives from the Department of Human Relations, Anderson Housing Authority, Department of Community and Economic Development, local banks, Anderson Board of Realtors, Madison County Property Owners Association, Consumer Credit Counseling, Indiana Vocational and Technical College, Urban League of Madison County, Minority Health Coalition, township trustees, and apartment managers.

To replicate this program, the Coalition suggests:

- . Get the commitment of the Mayor and the City Council
- . Send meeting invitations from the Mayor to community leaders in the areas of housing, financing, and insurance
- . Provide an opportunity for input into the goals and how the community will profit from the program
- . Formally appoint those members of the committee who are committed to the project
- . Determine the mission and needs statements
- . Plan at least one year's activities in advance
- . Contact other people in the community who can be of assistance.

In 2000, the Coalition received a national HUD Best Practice Award for serving as a model for other communities in the country to follow.